Pest Control

804.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish inspection, identification and eradication processes designed to keep pests controlled in accordance with the requirements established by all applicable laws, ordinances and regulations of the local public health entity.

804.2 POLICY

It is the policy of this office that pests be controlled within jail facilites. The Chief Deputy of Corrections or the authorized designee shall be responsible for developing and implementing this policy, in cooperation with Thurston County Facilities, the Contract Medical Provider and the local public health entity if needed, for the sanitation and control of pests, and to establish medical protocols for treating inmate clothing, personal effects and living areas, with specific guidelines for treating an infested inmate.

804.3 PEST CONTROL SERVICES

Thurston County Facilities department shall be responsible for procuring the services of a licensed pest control professional to perform inspections of the facility at least monthly and to treat areas as required to ensure that pests are controlled.

804.4 PREVENTION AND CONTROL

Many infestations and infections are the result of a recently admitted inmate who is pest infested or whose property is pest infested. Most infestations are spread by direct contact with an infected person or with infested clothing and bedding. Inmates with lice or mites should be treated with approved pediculicides as soon as the infestation is identified to avoid spreading it. To reduce the chance of further transmission, separate quarters for inmates undergoing treatment for lice should be used as described in the Communicable Diseases Policy.

Because the use of the treatment chemicals can cause allergic reactions and other negative effects, treatment should be done only when an infestation is identified and not as a matter of routine.

Clothing, bedding and other property that is suspected of being infested shall either be removed from the facility or cleaned and treated by the following methods, as appropriate or as directed by the pest control provider or the Responsible Physician:

- Washing in water at 140 degrees for 20 minutes
- Tumbling in a clothes dryer at 140 degrees for 20 minutes
- Dry cleaning
- Storing in sealed plastic bags for 30 days
- Treating with an insecticide specifically labeled for this purpose

Copyright Lexipol, LLC 2023/01/17, All Rights Reserved.
Published with permission by Thurston County Sheriff's Office

Head lice and their eggs are generally found on the head hairs. There may be some uncertainty about the effectiveness of some available pediculicides to kill the eggs of head lice. Therefore some products recommend a second treatment seven to 10 days after the first. During the interim, before the second application, eggs of head lice could hatch and there is a possibility that lice could be transmitted to others.

Pubic lice and their eggs are generally found on the hairs of the pubic area and adjacent hairy parts of the body, although they can occur on almost any hairy part of the body, including the hair under the arm and on the eyelashes.

Pubic lice and their eggs are generally successfully treated by the available pediculicides. However, when the eyelashes are infested with pubic lice and their eggs, a physician should perform the treatment.

Successful treatment depends on careful inspection of the inmate and proper application of the appropriate product. The area used to delouse inmates needs to be separate from the rest of the facility. All of the surfaces in the treatment area must be sanitized. There must be a shower as part of the delousing area.

The contract medical provider shall document the date of treatment, the area treated, the pest treated and the treatment used.

804.5 LABELING AND SECURE STORAGE OF COMPOUNDS

Containers of pest exterminating compounds shall be conspicuously labeled for identification of contents. The containers shall be securely stored separately from food and kitchenware, and shall not be accessible by inmates.

Copyright Lexipol, LLC 2023/01/17, All Rights Reserved.
Published with permission by Thurston County Sheriff's Office